

THE



WPD NEWSLETTER

April 2008

www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Police/

Upcoming event:

*The Law
Enforcement
Memorial
ceremony will be
May 13th
at 12:00 pm in
the Council
Chambers,
City Hall*

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elderly victim of
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profiling training
in Los Angeles*

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2007 Fall Recruit Class Graduates

The ranks of Wichita Police commissioned officers increased by 22 on April 4th as the Fall 2007 recruit class graduated in a ceremony at City Hall. The new officers, who were sworn in by Mayor Carl Brewer, now begin their field training.



"The new recruits are, as usual, a good representation of our community," said Training Bureau Commander Captain Darren Moore.

"They also were very hard workers. We only lost one recruit due to an injury, and she'll be in the next class which starts in July. "

Chief Norman Williams encouraged the new officers to live their lives as shining examples for the community.

"Integrity is the basis for community trust," Williams told the graduates. "I'm very pleased these new officers understand the importance of being servants of the public. They, and their families, can be very proud of their accomplishments and the bright future that's in store for them."

Ten of the new officers will be assigned to the Patrol East Bureau, seven to Patrol North, four to Patrol South and one to Patrol West.



22 recruits were sworn in on
April 4th

Fall 2007 Recruit Class Graduates:

Bradley Boyd, James Cole, Robert Dulohery Jr, Jared Henry, Megan Hink, Christopher Hornberger, Wesley Jensen, Brent Johnson, Brian Johnson, Kyle Kelley, Andrew Koharchik, Kevin Kurtz, Julius Lollis, Cory Masterson, Matthew Phillips, Robert Schmeidler, Jordan Seckman, Aaron Stark, Cameron Stokes, Ryan Tyrrell, Andrea Valerio, Casey Wills

Recruit training excercises ...



Classroom



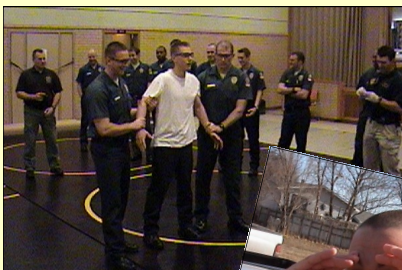
Physical fitness



Firearms at the Range



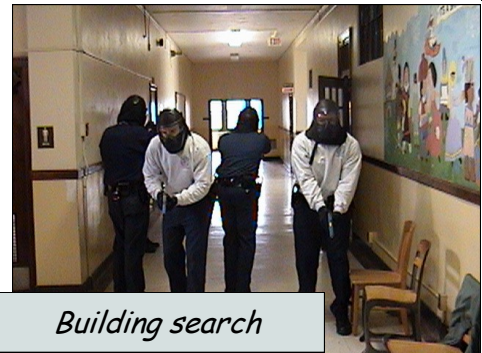
Officers were tased



and maced



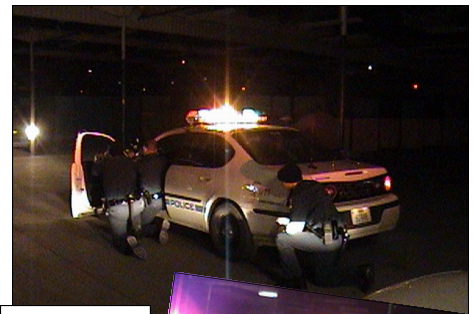
Field sobriety training



Building search



Emergency Vehicle Operations Course



Felony car stop training



Inspection

Did you know ...

Detective Phil Jacob was assigned follow-up investigation of the attempted aggravated robbery of the Kwik Shop located at 710 West 29th Street North. An unknown Hispanic male entered the business, threw a large chunk of ice at the female clerk's face and demanded money. Before the suspect could get the money a witness, who happened to be a golden gloves boxer, came around the corner of the isle with his purchase. The witness noticed the robber was unarmed and attacked him. The robber took a beating and ran from the store.



A photo of the suspect was sent out in a flyer. Two Sedgwick County detention deputies recognized the suspect as Raymundo Arvizu. The victim and witnesses identified Arvizu as the robber. When arrested Arvizu still had a black eye and bruising to his face. He confessed and was booked for attempted aggravated robbery.

Third shift employees in the Records Bureau received Certificates of Excellence on March 12th.

"These employees have demonstrated their commitment to doing an outstanding job for the citizens of Wichita," said Chief Norman Williams.



Pictured from left to right are: Chief Norman Williams, Victoria Rodriguez (supervisor), Garrett Shaddix, Pam Kester, Kelly Claypool, Nikki Bickham, Kim Caldwell, Sylvia Ramirez, Jennifer Williams, Mia Turner, Erin Riley, Shelia Alford, Michele Blunck, Connie Andrews and Sheryl McCree (supervisor).

Julia Pinkston was promoted to Administrative Aide 1 in the Court Liaison Section in March. Julia has been with the City of Wichita for 14 years.



The 2008 Bicycle Skills & Safety Clinic begins in June. The annual clinics are free and open to children ages 6-11. Application forms may be registered online or by contacting Police School Liaison at 268-4207.

City Hall security officer helps couple locked out of car

A couple visiting City Hall in the first week of April found themselves facing a problem. After they had completed their business at the City, they discovered they had locked their keys inside their car. To compound the problem, they didn't have enough money on them to pay a locksmith to help them get into their car.

That's where Security Officer Mark Ingram stepped in. Ingram gave the couple \$25 to call for help. City Hall Security Officer Kristie Dick reports the couple was very grateful for Ingram's help. It's City employees like Ingram who are helping transform Wichita city government.

Good job, Mark!

Officer Matthew Lowe and Officer Michelle Tennyson (Community Affairs Business Watch Coordinator) passed out approximately 30 Business Watch fliers to Waterfront area businesses. These fliers provide information on how to start a business watch. Officer Lowe advised the stores of the larcenies from vehicles and burglaries in the new construction area and to call 911 when they see suspicious activity.



316-268-4101

BUSINESS WATCH



Air Section aids Kansas Highway Patrol in pursuit



Wichita Police Department
Air Section
"Providing Airborne
Public Service
Since 1970"

The Wichita Police Department's Air Section responds to more than 10,000 calls each year. In addition, part of its mission is to come to the aid of other agencies in the area whenever possible. That support role is what found the Air Section helping the Kansas Highway Patrol in a pursuit that wound up catching several suspects in several Wichita burglaries.

It all began on March 31st when the Air Section responded to a request for assistance from the KHP which was trying to stop a vehicle in the area of K-15 and Greenwich Road. Shortly after the pursuit began, KHP and the Air Section lost sight of the vehicle, but located it again about 45 minutes later in Udall, Kansas.

Shortly before the Air Section reacquired the car, it hit a large wild turkey. That forced the driver to lean most of the way out of the driver's window in order to see where he was going.

During the lengthy pursuit, several spike strips were deployed which the driver was able to avoid. Eventually, the vehicle ran out of gas and slid into a ditch northwest of Peck, Kansas.

With the aid of the Air Section, troopers took into custody three suspects and a Cadillac Escalade SUV that had been stolen the night before from an open garage in East Wichita. The driver was arrested for felony theft and for evade and elude by Cowley County officers. He's also a suspect in more than 15 residential burglaries in Wichita.

Air Section Commander Lt. Paul Shields received a nice compliment from Trooper Charles Stangle, the officer who initiated the original pursuit.

"We do very much appreciate your help in the chase," said Stangle. "It was a good feeling when you guys got above us. I knew then he wasn't getting away again."

Citizen thanks officers for their 'kindness, patience and understanding'



Officer Cook

WPD gets many letters and emails each month complimenting its officers. This email came in on April 4 from a citizen to Crimes Against Persons Bureau Commander Captain Randy Landen. Great job by all involved.

"I just wanted to take a minute to let you know what great officer's you have. When I called you the other day to get direction on what to do about my son's truck possibly being stolen, I was not sure where to start. Your direction led me to the correct people. Last night at approximately 11:30 pm, I received a phone call from Officer Cook. He had found my son's truck parked in the 300 block of N Mathewson. Officer Cook's patience and understanding really made the difference in making this into a not so difficult situation. He waited until we got awake enough to talk on the phone, get dressed and drive from Park City. We didn't have any idea whether the truck would start or if it started if it would even run. Of course it was out of gas so Officer Cook was kind enough to wait with the vehicle until we could make a run to the Quick Trip and get gas and make sure we could get the vehicle and ourselves safely home. While Officer Cook was assisting us in all this, Officer Leffew watched from his squad car making us feel even safer with two sets of eyes watching over us.

"This is probably not unusual or anything different than what they do on a daily basis. I just wanted to let you (and the officers) know how their kindness, patience and understanding made all the difference in the world to us and how thankful we are to have men of their standards watching over us and helping to make Wichita a safe place to be."

Thanks again and God Bless, Adelle-Yost-Shain

Burglary case of retired sergeant's home broken by Patrol East officers and sergeant

Going the extra mile helped three officers, their sergeant and a detective break a burglary case that involved the residence of a retired WPD sergeant.

Officers Maurice Mitchell, Jason Cooley and Charles Byers and their sergeant, Bobby Wiley, coordinated the special assignment with Detective Kathy Dye. It involved the burglary of retired WPD Sergeant Alex Robinson's home.

Byers, who was familiar with the suspects in the case because he'd had contact with them on prior criminal cases, suggested they talk to the sister of one of the suspects because she had assisted him in the past. As a result of her cooperation, the team was able to identify a residence where the stolen property might be located. Property belonging to Sgt. Robinson was located there, and the resident identified a second location where more stolen property was located.

In addition to recovering the stolen property, the 38 Beat team, with the help of Detective Dye, arrested the two suspects for the burglary of Sgt. Robinson's home, and a woman living in the first home where stolen property was located who was wanted in South Carolina. In addition to clearing up the original burglary case, the investigation cleared another burglary case and an aggravated assault case.

Patrol North officers help elderly victim of exploitation

For officers Ernest Sharp and Brandon Lenzi, the call to Southwest National Bank last August started out as a routine dispatch. When they arrived, though, they discovered thanks to alert bank employees, a 47-year-old woman was trying to exploit an 82-year-old man.

The man, the grandfather of a WPD officer, had recently lost his wife. A few days after her death, the woman suspect had inserted herself into his life, claiming to be the sister of his deceased wife. The woman took the man to Southwest National Bank where she tried to get him to cash a check for several thousand dollars, claiming she was his caregiver. Her mistake, though, was trying to prevent the bank tellers from talking to the man whom they knew as a regular customer.



When officers Sharp and Lenzi responded to the call, they were able to help the man show them how to locate the woman. They then created a mug shot lineup that they showed to the victim and the bank employees.

"Based upon the investigatory efforts of these two officers I was able to put together a case and get it charged as an attempted felony theft by deception," said Detective Brad Bryant in the Financial Crimes Section. "The attempt cases are always harder to charge than the theft cases and it should be noted that without all of the follow-up and efforts put forward by these officers this case could not have been brought to a successful conclusion."

Bryant said, while the suspect in the case has not been apprehended, officers Sharp and Lenzi are to be congratulated for their hard work on this case.

Drugs, weapons, a stolen vehicle, larceny calls keep Patrol South officers busy

Heads-up policing by Patrol South officers last month resulted in some arrests in the South Bureau for charges involving weapons, drugs, larceny and a stolen vehicle.

On March 6th, Officer Dustin Nail was dispatched to check a suspicious character in the 300 block of North Washington. The calling party advised of seeing a man exit the driver's side of a Pontiac and retrieve a purse from the trunk, which was given to another man who placed the purse under his shirt. A short time later a larceny report was dispatched at 2nd & Washington. Believing the calls related, Officer Nail dusted the suspect vehicle for prints and was able to lift a latent print from the driver's door. The print and video surveillance identified the suspect in the theft.

On March 22nd, Officer Richard Bachman and Officer Aaron Gillispie stopped a vehicle at 1100 E. Douglas for a bad exhaust. The officers noticed the driver was acting very nervous and kept reaching around the vehicle. Officer Bachman had the driver step out of the vehicle. That's when Officer Gillispie observed a cocked .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun on the floorboard of the vehicle. The officers took the driver and the passenger into custody on weapons and drug charges after they located a large bag of meth in the vehicle.

The next day, Officer Nail was sitting off a drug complaint house in the 1100 block of South Laura when he observed a man get out of a vehicle and enter the residence. Officer Nail ran the vehicle tag and discovered it was stolen. A short while later, the man left the residence and started for the car. When he spotted Officer Nail, a short foot chase ensued. The suspect was caught and booked for theft, obstruct, possession and two counts of possession of drug paraphernalia. He also had two outstanding warrants for aggravated robbery, warrants, a parole violation and was wanted for City warrants.

Sergeant Espinoza honored with Excellence in Public Service Award

Patrol South Sergeant James Espinoza on April 11 received the Excellence in Public Service Award from the De Vore Foundation. The award is given each year to honor up to three public service employees whose performance and community activities go beyond the ordinary.

Espinoza, who has been involved with young people and in youth organizations for many years, was selected from among thousands of eligible workers from the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County and the Wichita Public School System. With the award comes a gift of \$2,500 from the De Vore Foundation.

"This prestigious award is a significant recognition of Sergeant Espinoza's dedication to the community and the Wichita Police Department," said Chief Norman Williams. "We are proud and excited for Sergeant Espinoza and his family."



Police and community members attend 'Perspectives on Profiling' training in Los Angeles

The Wichita Police Department, as part of its efforts undertaken to educate its team members on racial profiling issues, sent eleven Department members and four Wichita community members to the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles for training in Tools for Tolerance® for Law Enforcement: Perspectives on Profiling.

During the 2008 Spring Mandatory In-Service Training, the training team will introduce officers to a "Two-Pronged Test" involving the discussion of the 4th and 14th Amendments with a focus on the motivations for police action. The concerns surrounding the topic of police disengagement will also be discussed.

Dr. Galyn Vesey, Ph.D. will assist with the training of the Perspectives on Profiling program during Spring Mandatory In-Service Training. He also attended the training in California. He is a professor of policy at Bethel College in Newton, a graduate of Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs with a Ph.D. in social sciences, taught at Syracuse and at Utica (N.Y.) College, and retired in 2004 from teaching at Alabama A&M University, Huntsville.



Members of the Wichita Police Department and community members attended the **Tools for Tolerance: Perspectives on Profiling** for law enforcement training in Los Angeles during March.

First Row: Sgt. Jamal Shourbaji, Off. Enrique Aguiniga De La Torre, Anthony Suber, Lt. Troy Livingston **Second Row:** Off. Paul Zamorano, Frank Rodriguez, Lt. Hassan Ramzah, Jeri Lema, Lt. Darrell Atteberry **Third Row:** Walt Chappell, Dr. Galyn Vesey, Capt. Nelson Mosley, Lt. Doug Nolte, Off. Shawn Pichler, Capt. Felecia Norris

Detective receives the Making a Difference for Women award

Detective Jennifer Wright gets paid to talk dirty. But, it's not what you may think. Wright, the mother of two daughters, is a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force that is a part of the Exploited and Missing Child Unit, operated jointly by WPD and the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office.

Wright routinely enters on-line chat rooms where suspected child predators lurk. In all, she's worked 890 Internet crimes against children cases, 85% of which involve female victims.

"Detective Wright makes a big difference in the lives of girls and young women," said Lieutenant T.K. Bridges, her supervisor. "By intercepting many of these predators, there is no question she is making the lives of many girls safer."

Police and Pleasant Valley Middle School students to work together again

For the past nine years students at Pleasant Valley Middle School have teamed up with WPD to help clean up the neighborhood in the area of 21st and Market. It's a community service day that has done a lot over the years to insure the neighborhood is kept up and clean.

"This is a great project that each year spruces up one of Wichita older neighborhoods," said Patrol North Officer Troy Bussard, the School Resource Officer at Pleasant Valley.

"This year we are going to have eight groups of students and school staff out in the neighborhood picking up trash. Another group will paint out graffiti in the neighborhood, while yet another group will work with the school's art teacher to paint a mural in the area," said Bussard.

The project, which takes place on the morning of April 23rd, will also see yet another group working to plant a community vegetable garden, said Bussard.

"One of the main lessons the students learn again this year is the importance of being a part of the community, and helping keep the area looking nice for all who live nearby."

We want you to submit articles and photos for the WPD newsletter.

Articles, ideas and tips should be emailed to either Gordon Bassham at gbassham@wichita.gov or Jan Messerschmidt at jmesserschmidt@wichita.gov.

Please submit your photos in either a .JPG or .TIF format.



The Monthly Newsletter of the
Wichita Police Department

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Our Mission

The Wichita Police Department's mission is to provide professional and ethical public safety services in partnership with citizens to identify, prevent and solve problems of crime, fear of crime, social disorder and neighborhood decay, thereby improving the quality of life in our community.

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### **We Value**

Ethical Behavior

Protecting the Community

Diversity

Problem Solving